

Volume XXII Issue 6  
May 2009

# Grace Lutheran Church

## THE WELCOME PLACE

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### "HE HAS GONE FORTH TO GALILEE"

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!! With joy we can proclaim the good news. But we must be careful not to be content to stay at the tomb. Remember what the angels told Mary; "He is not here...He has gone forth to Galilee" So this command is for us too—to follow Him to our Galilee. In order for us to live as Christ would have us live, we must move past the tombs in our lives and go forth to the Galilees in our lives—there we will find HIM and continue the mission that we have been called to.

We will be in the season of Eastertide for the whole month of May. We are reminded of the resurrection everywhere we look; in the new blooms of the flowers, in the green-ing of the grass, when we see new baby animals.

During this month we also honor our mothers and who they are (or were) in our lives. Remember yours in a special way or by prayer for her memory.

We begin one service on Sundays beginning on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. All of our programs will be quickly winding down for the summer hiatus.

Enjoy the quietness of the valley as it becomes that "sleepy little valley" that the summer brings to us.

God's richest blessings during this Eastertide,  
Cathy

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**REMEMBER ON MAY 3RD WE WILL GO TO ONE  
SERVICIE AT 10:00AM  
COFFEE HOUR WILL BE AT 9:00AM.**



### Congregational Meeting



The Grace Lutheran Church Council has called a Special Congregational Meeting on May 3, 2009 after the service. The meeting will be held in the Church Sanctuary.

The purpose of this meeting is to vote on extending the call to Ryan J. Pederson and to vote on the compensation package.

**Mission Statement**

**God's purpose for Grace Lutheran Church is:**

**Welcome to grace,  
Welcome the message.**

**Principle Values:**

**Jesus is Lord**

**Everyone is welcome**

**All serve in different ways**

**Seek and share the message**

**God's love is life changing**



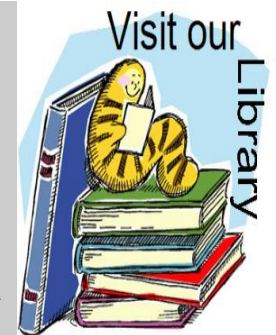
**Prayer Shawl Ministry**

The Prayer Shawl Ministry of Grace Lutheran Church has been reactivated and will meet at 9:00am the fourth Thursday of the month in the Parish Hall.

Anyone interested in knitting, crocheting or quilting are welcome. If you cannot knit, crochet, or quilt, you may contribute monetarily to the ministry. We also need people to deliver the finished shawls or lap quilts.

If you have any questions, call Elaine Kruegger (428-2895) or Laura Hamra (425-6695).

Are you aware of the library in the Parish Hall? There are a variety of materials that you can take home to use at your leisure. You will find books, both fiction and non-fiction; VHS cassettes; CD's of the Grace Notes program; cassette recording of the Bible and other materials. Please stop and make a selection. If you have any questions about the library, please contact Jack Hamre.



**Church Council Notes**

- ◆ Process of getting bids for repair of interior of sanctuary continues.
- ◆ Process of getting bids for parsonage AC replacement/repair continues.
- ◆ Asset Based Planning for the council has been scheduled for April 28th.
- ◆ Council Leadership Training is still pending.
- ◆ S.A.M. Contract negotiated through the end of June.
- ◆ Use of the Assembly Offering will be publicized through announcements, newsletter, and flyers. Anyone wishing to donate to the Assembly Offering may do so using a pew envelope or writing on their check, "Assembly Offering"
- ◆ May 17th Lay Leadership will lead the worship service.

**May Issue of The Vista: The May issue of The Vista will be available on the synod Web site by May 1. Go to [www.swtsynod.org](http://www.swtsynod.org) then select Publications & Newsletters. The May issue will not be printed and mailed to subscriber mailing addresses.**



**Vista**

## May Service Schedule

	May 3	May 10	May 17	May 24	May 31
<b>Usher</b>	Bob & Lillian Raynor	Bob & Lillian Raynor	Bob & Lillian Raynor	Bob & Lillian Raynor	Bob & Lillian Raynor
<b>Liturgical Assistant</b>	Loretta Snyder	Loretta Snyder	Loretta Snyder	Loretta Snyder	Loretta Snyder
<b>Lector</b>	Edna Gross	Edna Gross	Elaine Pulver	Edna Gross	Edna Gross
<b>Acolyte</b>	Poulos Children	Poulos Children	Poulos Children	Poulos Children	Poulos Children
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Elaine Krueger Carol Heesch	Elaine Krueger Carol Heesch	Elaine Krueger Carol Heesch	Elaine Krueger Carol Heesch	Elaine Krueger Carol Heesch



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|-----------------------|------|
| Vi Lindsay            | 5/05 |
| Joseph Figarelli, Jr. | 5/19 |
| Glen Tjepkema         | 5/19 |
| Edna Gross            | 5/24 |
| Frank Sommerfeldt     | 5/26 |
| George Stedman        | 5/26 |
| David Fisher          | 5/27 |
| Savvas Poulos         | 5/27 |
| Shelia Magoon         | 5/28 |
| Ruth Bork             | 5/30 |



### Elder Care

Elder Care will meet on Tuesday, May 5th at 10:30am in the Parish Hall.



### Family Members

- Reba** Gandara
- Darrell** Kennedy
- Jan** Miller
- Jimmy** Faires
- Emma** Dahl
- Marcy** Oppegaard
- Mindy** Staruh

### Deployed

- Christopher Petersen
- Bradley Hunt
- Steve Sherman
- Damien Young
- Todd Steffan

### Critical

- Leon MacQueen
- Wilma Lucas
- Carolyn Linden
- Elsie Gunderson

### Healing

- Frank Bingham
- Happy Bingham
- Dick Mars
- Barbara Christensen

### Shut Ins

- Gwen Pierce
- Florence Miller
- Kent Stratford

### Friends of Congregation

- Larry Adair
- Stephen Schluender
- Lester Johnson
- Melisa Siebert
- Matthew Reed
- Kelby Eddleman
- Jean Lynch
- Carolyn Sauerbrei
- John Rosnik
- Nancy Dieringer
- Teresa Herrera
- Dr. Warren Lee
- George Garcia
- Henry LaPlant



Southwestern Texas Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

## ***Southwestern Texas Synod***

### **2009 SYNOD ASSEMBLY OFFERING**

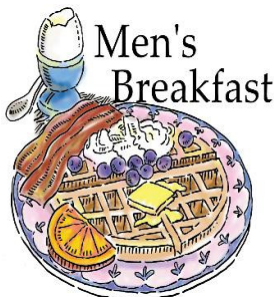
The Southwestern Texas Synod, in support of its Poverty Task Force and Assembly Planning Team, invites you to make an offering for faith-based projects that will work to make systemic change in the fight against poverty. This year each Conference has a dollar goal rather than a project goal. The Synod Challenge totals \$88,000 for distribution to the seven projects.

#### **Conference Goals:**

Austin Conference \$20,000  
San Antonio Conference \$20,000  
Hill Country Conference \$16,000  
Victoria Conference \$15,000  
Coastal Bend Conference \$13,000

#### **Project Goals:**

1. Casa Bugambilia in Matamoros, Mexico  
\$ 7,000 Sponsor: Grace Lutheran Church in Harlingen, Texas
2. Nueva Vida (New Life) in Mexico & San Juan, Texas  
\$ 8,000 Sponsor: St. John Lutheran Church in San Juan, Texas
3. Colonia 21 de Marzo in Reynosa, Mexico  
\$17,000 Sponsor: Our Savior in McAllen & Cristo Rey in Pharr, Texas
4. English Language Program in McAllen, Texas  
\$ 5,000 Sponsor: Our Savior Lutheran Church in McAllen, Texas
5. New Creation Community in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico  
\$ 7,000 Sponsor: Mision Luterana in Laredo, Texas
6. Women's Co-op in El Cenizo, Texas  
\$24,000 Sponsor: Mision Luterana in Laredo, Texas
7. Casa Marianella in Austin, Texas  
\$20,000 Sponsor: Casa Marianella Board in Austin, Texas



**Men's Breakfast will be held on Wednesday, May 13th and Wednesday, May 27th at 8:00am at Tila's Restaurant. All men of the Church are welcome to attend.**



**The deadline for the June Newsletter is May 22, 2009**



### Neighborhood Food Pantry

Donations are being accepted for the **Neighborhood Pantry**. The food item for this month is **soup**. Please place your dona-

tions in the boxes that are placed in the Narthex. If you will be **leaving the Valley** anytime soon, and you have extra food, please donate it to the Neighborhood Food Pantry. They will welcome any type of food. Tell all of your friends and neighbors to remember the Pantry when they are packing up to go North. Please also remember the Neighborhood Pantry accepts gently used clothing for the Clothes Closet.



### Ladies of Grace

The Ladies of Grace will hold their Business Meeting on Thursday, May 7th at 9:00am in the Parish Hall. Flora Gunderson will be hostess. The Ladies Lunch Out will be held May 14th. Please check the

bulletins for time and place. May 21st will be Bible Study at 9:00am in the Parish Hall. Edna Gross will be hostess and Ruth Thompson will lead the Bible Study. All ladies are welcome to attend any of the meetings. If you have any questions, please call Elaine Pulver.



The Church Council will meet on Tuesday, May 12th at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall.

A big thank you to everyone for the free will offerings at coffee hour. These funds are used to replenish the coffee, creamers, sugar and other coffee hour supplies.



*Thank You Notes*



*Mother's Day*

### A Mother's Prayer

Make me a wise mother, O Lord. Keep me calm and give me patience to bear the small, irritating things in the daily routine of life. Give me tolerance and understanding to bridge the gulf between my generation and that of my children.

Let me not be too ready to guide my children's stumbling feet, but allow me to be ever near to bind their bruises. Give me a sense of humor that I may laugh with them but never at them. Let me refrain from preaching with words; let me show by example instead.

Keep me from forcing their confidences, but give me a sympathetic ear when my children come to me. Make me humble. Keep my children close to me, O Lord, though miles may separate us. And let Thy light so shine upon me that they, too, will perceive Thy Glory. Amen



Over the years, Memorial Day has become a big holiday weekend.

It's now the unofficial start of summer, rather than a day of tribute to the departed it was originally meant to be.

Even if we plan fun events for Memorial Day weekend, it's important to stop long enough to bow our heads and pay respect to our departed loved ones—especially those who fell in battle while helping preserve America's liberties.

Let us take time to make the pilgrimage to various cemeteries and pause long enough to say, "Thank you, Father, for these special lives, for sacrifices made and for friendships we have shared."

## May 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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<b>3</b> 9:00 Coffee 10:00 Church Congregational Meeting	<b>4</b> 6:30pm Bible Study	<b>5</b> 10:30am Elder Care	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 9:00am Ladies of Grace National Day of Prayer	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 9:00 Coffee 10:00 Church  <i>Mother's Day</i>	<b>11</b> 6:30pm Bible Study	<b>12</b> 7:00pm Church Council	<b>13</b> 8:00am Men's Breakfast	<b>14</b> 11:30am Ladies Lunch Out	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>  ARMED FORCES DAY Southwest Synod Assembly
<b>17</b> 9:00 Coffee 10:00 Church Southwest Synod Assembly	<b>18</b> 6:30pm Bible Study	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 9:00am Ladies of Grace Ascension of Our Lord	<b>22</b> Deadline For June Newsletter	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 9:00 Coffee 10:00 Church	<b>25</b> Memorial Day 	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 8:00am Men's Breakfast	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> 9:00 Coffee 10:00 Church Pentecost Sunday						